IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

: 10/579,769

Applicant

: Peer STAEHLER et al

Filed

: July 24, 2006

TC/A.U.

: 1637

Examiner : David C. Thomas

Docket No. : 2923-754

Customer No.: 6449

Confirmation No.: 5685

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated August 19, 2008, please consider the amendment and remarks contained on the following pages. Applicants request a three-month extension of time, which extends the original due date of November 19, 2008 to February 19, 2009.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.